

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
DALLAS DIVISION**

REGINALD L. THOMAS, )  
vs. )  
Plaintiff, )  
vs. ) **No. 3:21-CV-3045-K-BH**  
LINDAMOOD DEMOLITION INC., )  
Defendant. ) **Referred to U.S. Magistrate Judge<sup>1</sup>**

**FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATION**

Based on the relevant filings and applicable law, the case should be dismissed without prejudice for failure to prosecute or comply with court orders.

**I. BACKGROUND**

The plaintiff initially filed this action against the defendant and moved for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* on December 7, 2021. (See docs. 3, 5.) He was granted leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* on December 9, 2021. (See doc. 6.) On that date, he was sent a questionnaire to obtain more information about his claims. (See doc. 7.) The questionnaire specifically advised the plaintiff that his answers to the questionnaire were due within fourteen days, and that a failure to file them answers could result in the dismissal of the case. (*Id.*) Well more than fourteen days from the date of the questionnaire have passed, but the plaintiff has not filed his answers or else in this case. The initial mailing to him with instructions and the questionnaire have now been returned as undeliverable. (See docs. 8, 9.)

**II. INVOLUNTARY DISMISSAL**

Rule 41(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure permits a court to dismiss an action *sua*

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<sup>1</sup> By *Special Order No. 3-251*, this *pro se* case has been automatically referred for full case management.

*sponte* for failure to prosecute or follow orders of the court. *McCullough v. Lynaugh*, 835 F.2d 1126, 1127 (5th Cir. 1988) (§ 1983 prisoner action). This authority flows from a court's inherent power to control its docket, prevent undue delays in the disposition of pending cases, and avoid congested court calendars. *Link v. Wabash R.R. Co.*, 370 U.S. 626, 629-31 (1962). The plaintiff failed to comply with the order that he provide answers to the questionnaire despite a warning that failure to do so could result in dismissal of the case. He has not filed anything else in the case, and mailings to him have been returned as undeliverable. Because the plaintiff failed to follow a court order or otherwise show that he intends to proceed with this case, it should be dismissed.

### **III. RECOMMENDATION**

This case should be dismissed without prejudice under Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(b) for failure to prosecute or comply with court orders, unless the plaintiff files his answers to the questionnaire within the time for objecting to this recommendation, or by some other deadline set by the court.

**SO RECOMMENDED on this 3rd day of January, 2022.**



IRMA CARRILLO RAMIREZ  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR SERVICE AND  
NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL/OBJECT**

A copy of these findings, conclusions, and recommendation shall be served on all parties in the manner provided by law. Any party who objects to any part of these findings, conclusions and recommendation must file specific written objections within 14 days after being served with a copy. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1); Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(b). In order to be specific, an objection must identify the specific finding or recommendation to which objection is made, state the basis for the objection, and specify the place in the magistrate judge's findings, conclusions and recommendation where the disputed determination is found. An objection that merely incorporates by reference or refers to the briefing before the magistrate judge is not specific. Failure to file specific written objections will bar the aggrieved party from appealing the factual findings and legal conclusions of the magistrate judge that are accepted or adopted by the district court, except upon grounds of plain error. *See Douglass v. United Servs. Automobile Ass'n*, 79 F.3d 1415, 1417 (5th Cir. 1996).

  
IRMA CARRILLO RAMIREZ  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE